

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 R

66608

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COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/LENGLESON

COM/BIC/OIM (INFO COPY)

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ARA/BR: JSLATTERY (INFO)

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P R 171457Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, PA

SUBJECT: ITAIPU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMMENTS

REF: ASUNCION 2561

1. AS REQUESTED, COMMERCE PASSED SUBSTANCE OF REFTTEL TO
GENERAL ELECTRIC INTERNATIONAL DIVISION WASHINGTON OFFICE
WHEN RECEIVED. AFTER CHECKING WITH DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK AND G.E. BRAZIL, THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OFFERS
THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2. GENERAL ELECTRIC IS SURPRIZED AND SOMEWHAT PUZZLED AT
DEBERNARDI'S COMPLAINT TO EMOFF REGARDING G.E.'S ATTITUDE
TOWARDS MEETING HIM IN ASUNCION. TWO G.E. OFFICIALS
(MR. T. ROMANACH, VP - G.E. BRAZIL, AND MR. J. STEWART,
HYDROELECTRIC SALES) MET DEBERNARDI IN ASUNCION WITHIN THE
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LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. AT THIS ONE TO ONE AND ONE HALF HOUR

MEETING WHICH G.E. DESCRIBED AS CORDIAL, G.E. DISCUSSED ITS INTERESTS AND APPROACH IN BIDDING THE ITAIPU PROJECT.

3. SINCE THAT MEETING, G.E. HAS BEEN IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH DEBERNARDI, INCLUDING PLANS FOR STEWART TO RETURN TO ASUNCION FOR ANOTHER MEETING WITH DEBERNARDI. G.E. HAS SINCE INVITED DEBERNARDI TO VISIT THE G.E. MANUFACTURING FACILITY NEAR SAO PAULO, BRAZIL AND DEBERNARDI HAS ACCEPTED. DEBERNARDI IS EXPECTED TO MAKE THIS VISIT ON JULY 22.

4. FURTHER, G.E. STATED THEY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GIVE DEBERNARDI MORE ATTENTION.

5. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO SPECULATE OR FURTHER COMMENT ON OTHER POSSIBLE REASONS BEHIND DEBERNARDI'S REMARKS REPORTED IN REFTTEL.

KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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